

Happy New Year!

It was lovely to see the whole school community back together last week and to open out gates welcoming every one back for a new school year!

Although it appears that autumn is well and truly here, we hope that you all had a wonderful summer, and we are very excited for the term ahead and the magical changes that this season brings.

An additional welcome shoutout goes to our new starters in Nursery, Reception and those who have joined us from other schools in various year groups. Thank you all for choosing Fens Primary School, and welcome to the Fens Family. You all had an amazing first week – brilliant!

Summer Half-Term Holiday 2025

We would, again, like to remind you of our arrangements for the summer half-term holiday of 2025. As previously communicated, we have, as we did during previous years, organised all five of our PD days into one week. This is for the first week of June 2025, which is the first week of the last half-term of this academic year. This week follows on from the official half-term holiday (Whit Week).

This means that instead of school being closed for just one week, it will be closed for two weeks. As a result, school will close at home time on Friday 23rd May 2025 and will re-open on Monday 9th June 2025.

If you have considered family holidays, this provides a great opportunity totaling 16 days. The link below will take you to our 2024-25 term dates.

[Confirmed School Term Dates 2024-25 V2.pdf](#)
fensprimaryschool.co.uk

School Dinners

The daily cost for dinners is £13.25 per week, which is paid via ParentPay.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 18th September – School Individual Photograph Day
Friday 25th October – School closes for October half term holiday.
Monday 4th November – School reopens for second autumn half term.

Packed Lunches

Fens Primary School is a nut free school. Please can we ask that you do not send any items to school containing nuts. Nutella and Kinder Bueno chocolate bars are both products that contain nuts. We have both children and adults in school who have serious nut allergies. Thank you.

We also ask that if you are sending grapes in as part of your child's packed lunch, we ask that you cut them in half as the pose a serious choking hazard.



Newsletter

Monday, 9th September

Merit Winners

Congratulations to our well-deserved winners who have had a brilliant first week in school. They have been superb role models, and should be extremely proud of themselves!



Lost Property

Following last week's communication, we are starting this week with our lost property areas clear. Every year these tend to still fill back up very quickly. If items are clearly labelled with your child's name, they can be returned quickly. If not done so already, please label your child's clothing. Thank you.

Asda Cashpot for Schools

Asda are currently running a scheme whereby if you sign up to register Fens Primary School as your chosen school, Asda will donate a percentage of any money you spend to the school. Please follow the link below if you would like Asda to donate to Fens Primary School. Thank you.

[Cashpot for schools \(asda.com\)](https://asda.com/cashpot-for-schools)

Attendance

As we informed you prior to the summer break, a new framework from the Department of Education came into place from August 19th 2024.

Under the new national framework, all schools will be required to consider issuing a penalty notice when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons within a 10-week period.

- A child will receive an unauthorised absence for the following reasons:
- A child is absent from school for a holiday that is not deemed as exceptional circumstances.
- A child's attendance is below 90% for the academic year to date and medical evidence has not been provided to verify the absence/illness. Medical evidence can include appointment card/proof of antibiotics/medical letter.
- Absence from school where no reason is given for the absence. Please ensure you always telephone school on first day of absence to ensure a valid reason for the absence is recorded.
- A child arrives at school late after the register is closed.

Whilst we understand a child may suffer from illness from time to time and require time off school, we recommend parents read [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#), when making a decision about absences.

If a child is absent from school due to a medical appointment, please show the office staff a copy of the appointment letter to enable us to authorise the absence.

From September parents will be required to complete and submit a Holiday Form prior to the holiday commencing and return it to the office.

For any absence which may be considered exceptional circumstances a Leave of Absence form must be completed and an appointment made to discuss this with Mr Connor (or a member of the Leadership team).